

### REMARKS

This is a Request for Continued Examination of U.S. application Serial No. 09/114,810, filed July 13, 1998.

Claims 1, 3-6, 19, and 51-54 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-6, 19, and 51-54 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 55-81 have been added. Accordingly, after the amendments presented herein have been entered, claims 55-81 will be pending. For the Examiner's convenience, a complete set of "clean claims" that will be pending upon entry of the amendments presented herein is attached hereto as Appendix A.

Support for the amendments to claims 55-81 can be found throughout the specification and in the claims as originally filed. *No new matter has been added.*

Any amendment or cancellation of the claims should in no way be construed as an acquiescence to any of the Examiner's rejections and was done solely to expedite the prosecution of the application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the claims as originally filed in this or one or more separate applications.

### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Applicants courteously solicit allowance of the claims in the form of a Notice of Allowance. Should there be any further outstanding issues of patentability following the entry of this amendment, a telephone interview is respectfully requested to resolve such issues.

Please charge any fee required or credit any overpayment of fees to our Deposit Account No. 12-0080. In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith, and the requisite petition does not accompany this response, the undersigned hereby petitions under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely. Any fee due is authorized to be charged to the aforementioned Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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